

TECHNICAL INFORMATION OFFICE  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
NAVY DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

RELEASED BY: H. BROWDY  
LI 5-6700 - Ext. 64162  
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#### NAVY HOSPITAL SHIPS CARE FOR OVER 33,000 PATIENTS

Navy hospital ships operating in the Korean theater during the period July, 1950 through March, 1952 have cared for over 33,000 United Nations patients the records of the Statistical Division of the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery indicate. This is approximately 50 admissions per day for the period stated.

The three U. S. Navy hospital ships operating in the Korean theater are: the USS CONSOLATION which was in active service at the onset of the Korean action; the USS REPOSE; and the USS HAVEN. The latter two ships were re-activated during the third quarter of 1950. In many instances it has been possible for these ships to operate "close-in" to the Korean coast, almost within sight of the battle lines.

This close support afforded by the hospital ships, equipped with landing platforms for helicopters, has made it possible for many of the wounded to be flown direct from the battle zone to the hospital ships in a matter of minutes.

The hospital ships handled a peak load of over 7,800 patients during the three-month period, October - December, 1950. During a nine-month period (October, 1950 through June, 1951) the ships admitted an average of nearly 2,400 patients per month.

A peak load of 3,820 U.S. Navy and Marine Corps patients were admitted by the ships during the months of April, May and June, 1951. The peak load of U.S. Army and Air Force patients numbered 4,493 during the months of

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October, November and December, 1950.

Although no break-down of personnel of other United Nations forces was made, over 2,000 individuals of miscellaneous categories have been cared for aboard the hospital ships. These personnel of the miscellaneous categories hit a peak load during the period October, November and December, 1950 when a total of 723 were admitted.

Thus, more so than ever before, the Navy's modern, fully equipped, well staffed, floating hospitals are providing speedy, immediate definitive treatment and specialized care to the wounded personnel of the Armed Forces of the United States as well as other United Nations personnel.